

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Frangible objects that become packed in large containers are removed by crushing the objects while they are still in the containers. A motor-driven crushing assembly is lowered into the container, where rotating strikers come into contact with the frangible objects and break the objects into smaller fragments. The broken fragments are guided into a guiding chute, from which they may be removed by conventional industrial vacuum equipment. The invention may be used for unloading ceramic packing from acid towers.